

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 215593  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMO-01 PER-01 ABF-01 SP-02 SS-15  
/033 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EX:RLKINNELL:RLK  
APPROVED BY EUR/EX:DCLEIDEL  
EUR/WE:MLISSFELT (SUBS)  
M/MO/DE:RGMAYS (SUBS)  
-----099334 242033Z /61  
P 242006Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AODE, FR

SUBJECT: MODE - PERSONNEL LEVELS, DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY/  
USSS

REF: BELLINGER/LEIDEL TELECON 8/24/78

1. FOLLOWING IS DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY RESPONSE TO  
MR. VEST'S LETTER OF MAY 30 ON USSS STAFFING AT PARIS:

"THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE HAS PROVIDED ME WITH THEIR REAC-  
TION TO THE AMBASSADORIAL RECOMMENDATION THAT ONE OF THE  
TWO CLERICAL POSITIONS IN THEIR PARIS OFFICE BE CONVERTED  
TO A FOREIGN NATIONAL POSITION. I AM IN AGREEMENT THAT  
THIS CONVERSION WOULD NOT BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE  
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UNITED STATES." SIGNED WILLIAM J. BECKHAM, JR., ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION.

2. USSS DIRECTOR H.S. KNIGHT RESPONDED:

"WE FEEL IT IS MANDATORY TO MAINTAIN THE TWO AMERICAN SEC-  
RETARY POSITIONS IN THAT FIELD OFFICE DUE TO THE NATURE

OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL RECEIVED THERE IN SUPPORT OF PROTECTIVE ACTIVITIES. FOREIGN NATIONALS CANNOT BE CLEARED FOR SI (SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE) MATERIAL; NOR CAN THEY HANDLE MATERIAL FROM OTHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES IN THE ;NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS' CATEGORY. ALMOST ALL OF THE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WE RECEIVE FROM OTHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES BEARS THIS CAVEAT. MANY TIMES DURING A PROTECTIVE MOVEMENT ALL AGENT PERSONNEL ARE ABSENT FROM THE OFFICE AND IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE SECRETARY ON DUTY BE ABLE TO RECEIVE, HANDLE AND DISSEMINATE CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IMMEDIATELY.

"THE NATURE OF THE WORK OF THE SPECIAL AGENTS ASSIGNED TO OUR FIELD OFFICES, INCLUDING PARIS, REQUIRES THEM TO SPEND MOST OF THEIR TIME AWAY FROM THE OFFICE. WITH A SMALL WORK FORCE SUCH AS OUR PARIS OPERATION, IT IS NOT AT ALL UNUSUAL FOR ALL SPECIAL AGENTS TO BE ABSENT AT THE SAME TIME, LEAVING THE CLERKS TO HANDLE THE KIND OF MATERIAL DESCRIBED ABOVE.

"FREQUENTLY ONE OF THE AMERICAN CLERKS AS WELL AS ALL AGENTS ASSIGNED IS ABSENT FROM THE OFFICE. LUNCH PERIODS, LEAVE OR THE NEED FOR A CLERK TO PERFORM SOME DUTY OUTSIDE THE OFFICE MAY OFTEN LEAVE ONLY ONE CLERK IN THE OFFICE. THE CLERK MUST BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH CLASSIFIED MATERIAL AS WELL AS SERVE AS AN INTERPRETER FOR OUR AGENTS WITH FRENCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POLICE OFFICIALS ON SENSITIVE MATTERS. AS WE HAVE ALREADY INDICATED, A FOREIGN NATIONAL WOULD BE UNABLE TO HANDLE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION, AND WE ALSO FEEL THAT SHE/HE WOULD BE LESS ABLE TO REPRESENT OUR INTERESTS IN MEETINGS WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS."

3. COPIES OF ALL CORRESPONDENCE BEING POUCHED TO POST THIS DATE.  
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE215593  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RLKINNELL:RLK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 1630542  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MODE - PERSONNEL LEVELS, DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY/ USSS  
**TAGS:** AODE, FR  
**To:** PARIS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014